

**MINUTES-SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
May 26, 2015**

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order Tuesday, May 26, 2015, at 8:37 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Andy Ball presided. Council members present were Jennifer Peña, Lynne Mason, Fred Hay, and Quint David. Staff members present were Town Manager John Ward, Town Clerk Christine Pope, Assistant to the Manager Jim Byrne, Finance Director Amy Davis, Intern Holly Peterson and Administrative Support Specialist Nicole Worley.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a budget work session.

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF FY 2015/2016 BUDGET

Council began the discussion by reviewing the recommended budget submitted by Town Manager John Ward and Finance Director Amy Davis. **(Copy of materials permanently on file at Town Hall).** Mr. Ward submitted the following budget totals:

• General Fund:	\$15,044,836.00
• E-911:	\$293,904.00
• Narcotics Enforcement:	\$26,500.00
• Water & Sewer Fund:	\$7,707,299.00
• Health Insurance Fund:	\$1,766,500.00
• Municipal Service District:	\$164,999.00
• Rural Fire Service:	\$1,082,085.00
Total:	\$26,086,123.00

Mr. Ward briefly discussed goals for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Ward noted that he would like to move forward with a Town-wide fee schedule and is hopeful about the completion of the Howard Street project. He also indicated that instead of replacing the Laserfiche system, he was able to determine that a more efficient, paperless meeting management system would also provide searchable meeting minutes for the public.

Mr. Ward continued to review the recommended budget and stated that he recommends the addition of one police officer in the next fiscal year in addition to \$4,000 for increased training. He reviewed his recommendations for the auto vehicle locator which was requested by the Fire Department and stated that having this resource will count as points toward the Town's ISO rating and will keep insurance rates down for the approximately 40 square miles the Boone Fire Department covers.

Council briefly discussed water and sewer needs and the possibility of land acquisition for a new municipal complex.

Mr. Ward presented the Public Works Capital Improvement Plan Update which was well received by Council. He stated that the CIP was a dynamic document that could be changed and he believed it to be a strong start to having a 10-year plan in place for the Town.

Public Works Director Rick Miller entered the meeting at 9:50 a.m. to discuss various issues regarding the Public Works Department including vehicle and water line replacements for the department as well as paving and sidewalk issues.

Mayor Ball declared a break at 10:20 a.m. Council reconvened at 10:37 a.m.

Discussion ensued regarding the additional funds requested by the Outside Agency Funding Review Committee. Council was in agreement that the amount of funding for outside agencies be increased to \$125,000 to cover the full recommendation by the committee. Council Member Mason suggested that this amount become a regular line item in future budgets.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the parking situation in downtown Boone and how to better advertise the available long-term parking lots to both locals and visitors. It was discussed that the one hour time limit is perceived by some to be too restrictive and Mr. Ward suggested that Council give the meters and soon-to-be installed pay stations a bit more time before changing the time limit.

Mayor Ball declared a break at 11:50 a.m. Council reconvened at 12:08 p.m.

There was brief discussion about the take-home policy of Town vehicles with Mr. Ward offering to revisit the policy.

Since there were no suggested changes to the Recommended Budget, Mayor Ball stated that the Budget Public Hearing would take place at the upcoming Town Council Meeting on June 18, 2015. Town Manager John Ward suggested that if there was nothing further to discuss the May 27, 2015 work session would be cancelled. Council was in agreement to cancel the May 27, 2015 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Council Member Peña, seconded by Council Member Mason, Council moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

VOTE: Aye—All
 Nay—None
 Absent—1 (Brantz)

Nicole H. Worley,
Administrative Support Specialist

Andy Ball, Mayor